

TRANSFORMING THE TAR HEEL STATE

THE LEGACY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN NORTH CAROLINA

Historical Facts about H. Leslie Perry Memorial Library

Henderson (Vance County, N.C.)

Compiled by Linda VanSistine-Yost

Library Established

1924

Notable Librarians

Bertie Craig was H. Leslie Perry Memorial Library's first librarian.

First Bookmobile

The first bookmobile program was established in 1953. The town of Henderson purchased the van that served as the first bookmobile.

Important Facts

1924-- The original Perry Library was built with funds donated in honor of H. Leslie Perry a young, prominent, local attorney who died at age 36 after a lengthy illness. The funds were donated by his father, Colonel Henry Perry, his mother, and his widow. There was no cost to the taxpayers to build the building.

2006- Charlie Rose, the journalist/interviewer and native of Henderson was instrumental in raising funds for the new Perry Library several years ago. Due to the success of his fund raising efforts, the new library building cost taxpayers nothing. Senator Elizabeth Dole was in attendance for the groundbreaking on April 1, 2005. The new library opened July 5, 2006.

May 5, 2008- Former President Bill Clinton visited the library at a campaign event on behalf of Hillary Clinton.